

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

MAPUTO FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

DEPT PASS AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, CIEC, EFIN, ECON

SUBJ: CIEC: THE QUIET BEFORE THE STORM

1. USUN HAS INTENSIFIED ITS EFFORT TO ASSESS G-77 CONCERNs
AND TACTICS IN REGARD TO UPCOMING CIEC. IN THAT CONNECTION
SENIOR OFFICERS HAVE HELD DISCREET IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS
WITH PROBABLE PROMINENT PLAYERS, INCLUDING GHANA, JAMAICA,
YUGOSLAVIA, INDIA, SUDAN, NIGERIA, BRAZIL, MEXICO. WE
HAVE IMPRESSED UPON THEM THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HAVING
A FAIR ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESENT CIEC STATE OF PLAY AND
THE ESSENTIALITY OF AVOIDING LAST MINUTE SURPRISES.

2. IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE "UNFINISHED AGENDA"
ON WHICH SUBSTANTIVE MOVEMENT IS EXPECTED WILL BE AS
FOLLOWS, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY: A) COMMON FUND; B) DEBT
RELIEF; C) ODA; D) ENERGY; E) RESUDUAL ISSUES
REPOSING IN CIEC AND THEIR FURTHER HANDLING.

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3. COMMON FUND - THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE A GREAT
DESIRE TO REMOVE ALL RESERVATIONS ATTENDANT TO UNCTAD
RESOLUTION 90(IV) WITH THE FURTHER UNDERSTANDING THAT
UNCTAD WOULD BE THE LEGATEE OF COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS.
IN THAT CONNECTION THE FEELING IS THAT THE CONCEPT OF
PARALLEL NEGOTIATIONS (I.E., NEGOTIATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL
COMMODITY AGREEMENTS CONCURRENT WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON

THE FUND) COULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME, INTER ALIA.

4. DEBT RELIEF - THE FEELING IS THAT WE SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE UNCTAD TDB MINISTERIAL MEETING IN AUGUST ON DEBT RELIEF AND, IF THE INFERENCES IMPLICIT IN THE LONDON DECLARATION ARE CONFIRMED, THIS ISSUE COULD ULTIMATELY FIND ITS WAY TO UNCTAD, TO ECOSOC AND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

5. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE - THIS WILL BE A THORNY ISSUE BUT ONE WHICH THE SOBER HEADS IN THE G-77 BELIEVE CAN BE DEALT WITH IN A FORUM OF THE UNITED NATIONS, PARTICULARLY THIS COULD BE A CAPSTONE OF THE CONCERN OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AND ULTIMATELY DEALT WITH AS A MEDIUM-TERM ISSUE WITH MUCH MORE EMPHASIS PLACED UPON THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE THAN UPON RECRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO PERFORMANCE DURING THE 70'S.

6. ENERGY - THE ENERGY PROBLEM IS REGARDED AS AN AMERICAN PREOCCUPATION IN WHICH WE CAN COUNT ON LITTLE READL INTEREST FROM THE BULK OF THE G-77. THE REAL PROBLEM IS TO FIND A MODUS VIVENDI WITH THE OPEC COUNTRIES, PREFERABLY OUTSIDE OF THE FORMAL PLENARY OF THE CIEC.

7. RESIDUAL ISSUES - IT IS FAIRLY WIDELY AGREED THAT CIEC SHOULD NOT BE STRUNG OUT BEYOND THIS PRESENT SESSION. THE INDIANS, THE YUGOSLAVS, THE GHANAINS, NIGERIANS, AND JAMAICANS ALL ARGUE VOCIFOROUSLY THAT RESIDUAL ISSUES, CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUDING THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, CAN MORE THAN ADQEUALETLY BE DEALT WITH EFFECTIVELY WITHIN UNITED NATIONS FORA.

8. THERE IS STRONG OBJECTION TO CREATING ANY NEW INSTITUTIONAL MACHINERY AT THIS STAGE. IT IS POINTED OUT THAT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE G-19 AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE G-77, AS WELL AS WITH THEIR CAPITALS HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENTLY ERRATIC THAT THE G-19 HAVE ASSUMED A CHARACTER PECULIAR TO THEMSELVES AND NOT NECESSARILY REFLECTIVE OF THE VIEWS AND ISSUES STRONGLY HELD BY THE G-77.

9. IT IS ALSO FELT THAT THE SAME SHORTCOMINGS CITED ABOVE OBVIOUSLY WOULD REQUIRE THAT THE G-77 MEET AT A HIGH AND WIDELY REPRESENTATIVE LEVEL PRIOR TO ANY CONVOCATION OF A SPECIAL OR RESUMED SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE NEW YORK BASED SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE G-19 AT PARIS MAY BE USING THE THREAT OF A RESUMED SESSION TO INCREASE THE PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS AT CIEC. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD PROBABLY STRONGLY OBJECT TO ANY REAL OR

IMPLIED COMMITMENT WHICH AT THIS STAGE COMMITS THEM TO A JUNE SPECIAL SESSION. A PREMATURE GA SESSION RUNS THE RISK OF THE SAME WEAKNESSES BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE BROADER BASED NEW YORK GROUP AS HAS BEEN THE CASE WITH THE G-19.

10. OUR INFORMANTS EMPHASIZE THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR FREE AND CONTINUOUS, INFORMAL, UNACKNOWLEDGED LIAISON BETWEEN THE US DELEGATION AT PARIS AND THE VARIOUS DISPARATE ELEMENTS WITHIN THE G-77. THEY POINT OUT THAT IT WAS THE FAILURE TO EXPLOIT THIS MECHANISM AT UNCTAD IV WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THAT SESSION'S GOING AWRY AND VIRTUALLY REACH ITS CLIMAX IN A SITUATION WHERE MOST OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE WERE UNAWARE OF THE POSITIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL PLAYERS, THE ISSUES, OR THE PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION.

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